

# James Strath Public School News

## Focus on Success



May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

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### **From the Office...**

With the warmer weather finally approaching, we are starting to see more students walk, ride their bike, or ride their skateboards or scooters to school. For safety reasons, students are reminded to wear a helmet, and to walk their bike, or carry their scooter or skateboard, when they are on school property. Scooters and skateboards may be kept in student lockers while locks are recommended for students bringing their bikes to school. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Students are also reminded to follow our school dress code. Clothing should cover the torso from shoulders to mid-thigh. Short lengths must be at mid-thigh. Shoulder straps should be two fingers wide and slogans and graphics should be appropriate for the school setting. Thank you for your co-operation with these guidelines.

Have a terrific month of May!

Glen Payne - Principal  
Matt Gennings - Vice Principal

### **Kindergarten Orientation Night**

On Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup>, families with children starting Kindergarten in September are invited to the Kindergarten Orientation Night. This informational event will take place at James Strath from 6pm to 7pm and will provide a number of details around getting students ready for a successful start in September. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **EQAO – Grade 3 and Grade 6**

The administration of the EQAO Primary and Junior provincial assessment is scheduled from **May 22 to May 30**. Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will be completing assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics during this timeframe. Parents of students in these grades will receive notification and information relating to specific test schedules.

Education Quality and  
Accountability Office



## **School Council Update**

The next School Council meeting takes place on Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> in the school library at 6:30 pm. The meeting is open for community members wishing to attend. We hope to see you there!

### **James Strath School Council Executive – 2018/2019**

**Chair:** Karen Smith [karen@kest.ca](mailto:karen@kest.ca)  
**Secretary:** Lisa McGowan [lisacmcgowan@gmail.com](mailto:lisacmcgowan@gmail.com)  
**Treasurer:** Melody Taylor [melodytaylor12@hotmail.com](mailto:melodytaylor12@hotmail.com)

## **Character Council Update – Mindful May**

Part of being mentally healthy means learning to be mindful. James Strath Public School has designated this month as Mindful May. We are encouraging every class to get involved in improving our mental health.

The school came together in an assembly to learn about a variety of ways of being mindful. Every class is asked to participate and choose some mindful activities throughout the month of May, take photographs, and post them on our school Edsby site for other classes to see.

Students will be focusing on mindful meditation, mindful mandala coloring, increasing their time outside in nature, increasing their daily physical activity time, and going for neighbourhood walks, in addition to other activities classroom teachers choose for their students to improve and enhance their mental health.

### **May Sub and Pizza Day Dates**

Upcoming Subway Lunch Dates:



Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>

Upcoming Pizza Hut Lunch Dates:



Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>

## **James Strath Sports Update**

Over the past month, we've had a number of students participate in various athletic tournaments and events.

Our school Gymnastics and Dance teams took part in the area meet at the Wellness Centre on April 25<sup>th</sup> and showed their amazing routines to the Strath staff and students on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. We would like to congratulate all team members on their hard work, dedication, and perseverance. Thank you to Mrs. Wright, Ms. Adams, Ms. Peers, and Ms. Sawyer for coaching our teams!

The Intermediate Badminton teams took part in their tournament on April 17<sup>th</sup> and were wonderful representatives of James Strath. Thank you to all team members and to coaches Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Kelly.

James Strath's Junior Boys and Girls Floor Hockey teams demonstrated great sportsmanship and teamwork while hosting their respective tournaments on April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all players, to Mrs. McNamara and Mrs. Brown for coaching the Boys' teams, and Mr. Shadgett and Mr. Kelly for coaching the Girls' teams.

On Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be having our James Strath Track & Field Meet. Students from the Junior and Intermediate divisions will be taking part in their chosen events at our meet at Crestwood. The rain date is set for May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Ultimate Frisbee tryouts will also be starting this month. Students interested in trying out are asked to listen to the announcements for more details regarding tryout schedules.

### **Dates to Remember:**

Ramadan – May 6 to June 4  
Mental Health Week – May 6 to May 10  
International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia – May 17  
Victoria Day (Schools Closed) – May 20  
Aboriginal Awareness Week – May 21 to May 24

## **Litterless Lunches**

Thanks to the many families who have participated or attempted to participate in Litterless Lunch Wednesdays. We know it's difficult but we also know the planet deserves our help! If you have three minutes to fill in a google form about litterless lunches, we would be very grateful. Your child's name will be entered in a draw where they could win a prize of infinite value!

<https://forms.gle/GQr3WTW9kEx8aXTn7>

## **James Strath Talent Show**

The annual James Strath Talent Show is coming this month! The Talent Show will be held on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and there will be two performances – one at 10:35 and one at 1:00. Members of the public are invited to attend either performance. We hope to see you in the audience!

# #WEARESTRATH



James Strath P.S.  
2018-2019 Yearbooks  
Are On Sale Now!

Immortalize your 2018-2019 school memories!

Yearbook Features include primary, junior, and intermediate collages; classroom; graduation; special events; clubs; and team pages.

Please Note:  
Orders must be completed through  
School Cash Online by  
Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

\$20.00 each or  
**Special Immediate Family**  
rate of  
Three for \$50.00

## **Inspirational Paralympian Cody Caldwell Returns to James Strath**

Cody Caldwell has some advice to share about overcoming obstacles. Cody is one of the most inspiring stories in the Canadian Paralympic movement. Cody started his wheelchair rugby career in 2008 after becoming a quadriplegic in a diving accident. He adapted quickly to wheelchair rugby and soon earned a reputation for his mix of intelligence and speed. He won gold at the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games and the 2015 World Wheelchair Rugby Challenge, participated in the 2016 Paralympic Games, and is now training for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Cody is an inspiration for anyone who has faced adversity, or is facing an obstacle.

On the morning of June 13, 2019, Cody will share his inspirational story with the students at his former school, explain the thrilling sport of wheelchair rugby, and prove that greatness can start in the halls of James Strath. Cody was given a boost by the Petro-Canada FACE program, which awards grants to inspirational athletes deemed to have great potential to represent Canada at Olympic and Paralympic Games and also gives selected athletes the chance to inspire youth in their hometowns.

After speaking with students about following their dreams, no matter what obstacles are put in front of them, Cody will also help present a special framed photo to the school on behalf of the FACE program.